

Remarks

In response to the election of species and restriction requirements in the Official communication dated January 11, 2005, Applicants hereby elect to restrict the invention to Group II (claims 9-21), while reserving the right to file continuation and divisional patent applications directed to the non-elected claims. Applicants further elect the group associated with Species 1 identified by the Examiner, and including Figs. 1-8. Applicants respectfully submit that at least claims 9-10, 13-19 and 21 read on the group identified as Species 1.


By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-8 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Thus, claims 9-21 are presently pending in the above-identified application. Applicants submit that all of claims 9-21 are in condition for allowance. Such action is respectfully requested.

If necessary, Applicants request that this response be considered a request for an extension of time appropriate for the response to be timely filed. Applicants request that any required fees needed beyond those submitted with this response be charged to the deposit account of Bose McKinney & Evans, Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below should any question or comments arise during the course of consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

BOSE MCKINNEY & EVANS LLP


Ryan O. White
Registration No. 45,541

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 684-5000

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